(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following major projects have been identified to be set up in the Public and Cooperative Sector during the 8th Plan;

(i) Expansion of Vijaipur Plant of National Fertilizers Ltd.

(ii) Expansion of Aonla Plant of IFFCO.

(iii) A grass-root ammonia/urea plant by KRIBHCO on the HBJ pipeline.

(iv) Expansion of Hazira plant of KRIBHCO.

(v) Expansion of Thal plant of RCF.

The above proposals would require the clearance of the Planning Commission.

[English]

Development of Coir Industry in Kerala

966. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken for the development of coir industry in Kerala; and

(b) the welfare measures proposed for coir workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) The Coir Board, with the assistance of the Central Government, has been implementing various programmes for the development of coir industry in Kerala. Some of the programmes are:-

(i) Centrally sponsored scheme for co-operativisation in coir industry.

(ii) Rebate scheme for market development.

(iii) Foreign publicity and market promotion programmes.

(iv) Construction of pucca worksheds.

(v) Research and Development programmes for improving productivity and introduction of modified equipments.

(vi) Collection of statistics and conducting of surveys etc.

(b) Welfare of coir workers has been getting due attention of the Government. A sum of Rs. 50 lakhs has been provided during the current year's Budget for that purpose.

Purchase of Free Sale Sugar

967. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether sugar mills in Karnataka have started rejecting the tenders for purchase of free sale sugar in weekly auctions;

(b) if so, the main reasons for taking such a decisions

(c) whether the decision has affected the supply of free sale sugar in the State; and

(d) the action the Union Government propose to take?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c). No information in this regard is available with the Government.

(d) In case any factory contravenes any of the provisions relating to sale and despatch of Free Sale Sugar released to them each month, they would be liable for action as per the Statutory provisions.

Atomic Reactors with Foreign Assistance

968. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have reached any agreement with any foreign country for installation of atomic reactors in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS SHRIMATI MARGARENT ALVA): (a) Yes Sir. An Inter Governmental Agreement (IGA) between USSR and India on co-operation in the construction of a nuclear power station of 2 x 1000 MWe capacity in India was signed in November, 1988.

(b) These units are proposed to be located at Kudankulam in Tamil Nadu. As per the IGA a Detailed Project Report (DPR) is to be prepared by USSR as per agreed terms of reference. After approval of DPR by India a techno-commercial offer for implementation of the project is to be received from the Soviet side. A contract for construction is thereafter to be entered into. As per the IGA, USSR shall extend to India a credit of the amount of upto 3200 Million Roubles at 2.5% interest per annum. As of now the terms of reference of the DPR and maximum basic cost of the project have been agreed to.

[*Translation*]

Deaths by Falling into Uncovered Manholes

969. SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of children/persons who died this year by falling into uncovered manholes in various areas of Delhi; and

(b) the measures adopted by the Government so far to prevent such deaths and the action taken against the offices responsible for negligence of duty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). The N.D.M.C. has given instructions to the Maintenance as well as Conservancy Staff to exercise greater vigil. In order to reduce pilferage of cast iron manhole covers, steel-fibre, re-inforced concrete covers are being used. The M.C.D. and DDA have reported that necessary instructions have already been given to the field staff to ensure that uncovered manholes are covered as soon as it is reported by any authority or person. M.C.D. have further reported that action has been initiated against a number of officials for negligence of duties in connection with the incident which occured in Resettlement Colony Khyala.